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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

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Memo to Mr. Belmont
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

witnessing the passing of \$6500 to be true. This official advised that Alvarado was being treated cordially and that he was either telling the truth or was the world's best liar. This official advised that Alvarado's interrogation was continuing and that this interview would now be conducted in a little stronger manner. He furnished no further elaboration on this statement but stated that Alvarado, who is apparently familiar with the interior of the Cuban Consulate, was unable to pick out a photograph of Sylvia Duran from a group of photos of female individuals.

On the evening of 11/29/63, Legat, Mexico, received information from a high-level Mexican official that Alvarado reportedly admitted his story was a pure fabrication designed to provoke the U. S. into kicking Castro out of Cuba. On 11/30/63, [Winn Scott, Chief, CIA] Mexico City, advised that he had received information from Mexican authorities who were interviewing Alvarado that Alvarado had admitted that information furnished by him regarding Oswald's presence in the Cuban Embassy on 9/18/63 and the information regarding a pay-off to Oswald was a pure fabrication for the above-mentioned reason. [Scott] advised that Franklyn Wheelock Garcia, an official of the [Nicaraguan Security Service] who is very familiar with Alvarado, arrived in Mexico City on 11/29/63 and during the last few hours of Alvarado's interrogation was in a room adjoining that room in which Alvarado was being interviewed. As a consequence, he was kept advised of the progress of Alvarado's interview. According to [Scott], Wheelock had advised that Alvarado in the past had furnished information concerning [Nicaraguan] Communist Party activities and from 20 to 25% of the information furnished by Alvarado was unreliable. [Wheelock] described Alvarado as a person who believed himself to be more intelligent than his control officer. [Scott] stated no information was available that the Mexican authorities had used any violence in securing an admission from Alvarado that his statements were fabrication.

Investigation by both Legat, Mexico, and [CIA, Mexico] looking towards identifying other witnesses allegedly present in the Cuban Consulate at the time Alvarado claims he saw Oswald receiving the above-mentioned \$6500, was unable to uncover the white male who possessed a Canadian passport or the red-haired Cuban Negro. It is noted Cuban Vice Consul Azcue reportedly returned to Cuban on 11/18/63. Mexican authorities have been requested to assist in the possible identification of the above-mentioned white male with Canadian passport and red-haired Cuban Negro who allegedly witnessed the pay-off to Oswald. However, it appears that Alvarado's descriptions of those persons who reportedly witnessed the pay-off are intentionally vague, thus making it impossible to identify or interrogate them and leaving Duran as the only logical person available to confirm or refute Alvarado's statements.

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On 11/30/63, Ambassador Mann advised that since it was determined that Alvarado's statements were false, it was not necessary for SA Keenan to remain away from his duties in Washington. He expressed his sincere appreciation for the Bureau's cooperation and assistance, and requested that his personal gratitude be conveyed to the Director.

SA Keenan returned to Washington, D. C., on 12/1/63.

As of 11/30/63, Alvarado was being held by Mexican authorities on the charge that he illegally entered Mexico. Alvarado, in his statement to Mexican authorities, advised that he had entered Mexico without a Mexican visa and after bribing a Mexican Immigration inspector. Mexican authorities advised [CIA] Mexico, that Alvarado would probably be deported to Nicaragua in the near future.

Legat, Mexico City, by cable 12/2/63 advised that Alvarado in his statement to [redacted] claimed that his original statements were true and that he recanted under fear of violence from the Mexican authorities.

W.C.S.

[Signature]

ADDENDUM BY W. C. SULLIVAN/LL - 12/3/63

Alvarado should be immediately subjected to a polygraph examination. This is being handled.

Wef

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